



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

For Immediate Release

Lisa Aug (502) 564-9203

Lisa.Aug@ky.gov

www.veterans.ky.gov

Carillon to be Dedicated at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North in Williamstown

Memorial Day Ceremony Features Musical Bell Tower

WILLIAMSTOWN, Ky. (May 26, 2011) Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North in Williamstown will dedicate its Memorial Carillon on Monday, May 30, Memorial Day. The bell tower plays memorial and patriotic music to recognize and honor veterans and their service to our nation.

The ceremony will begin at 1 p.m.. Grant County Veterans Honor Guard will post the national colors, and LTC James G. Simpson, US Army Reserve, will give the invocation and benediction. AMVETS Department of Kentucky will post the wreaths, and the guest speakers will be Governor Steven L. Beshear, and William A. Boettcher, president of AMVETS National Service Foundation. Mr. Boettcher and Commissioner Lucas will unveil the dedication plaque.

"I'm honored to be a part of this memorial event to recognize our brave men and women," Beshear said. "It's been a priority of mine throughout my time as governor to remember their devotion and service to our country and Commonwealth."

KDVA encourages everyone to join us in honoring our veterans and welcoming the new carillon.

“We are pleased that the AMVETS National Service Foundation continues to honor Kentucky’s state veterans’ cemeteries with these carillons,” said Ken Lucas, commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. “The musical bells add a special quality to the atmosphere there. And we are grateful to the many organizations and individuals whose donations made this carillon possible.”

The Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund provided \$15,000 toward the cost of the carillon. The AMVETS National Service Foundation contributes the other half of the cost.

AMVETS partners with local organizations to install two carillons each year – no more than one per year per state. KDVA’s oldest veterans’ cemetery, Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville, received the first AMVETS carillon in 2008. Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central in Radcliff received the second in 2009.

Since erecting the first carillon at Arlington National Cemetery in 1949, AMVETS has established carillons at more than 80 locations throughout the country, including 16 at veteran sites overseas.